This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Original)   A method, comprising:

receiving, at a first storage unit, an I/O command from a host;

generating an identifier that identifies a destination to which the I/O command is to be transmitted from the first storage unit;

augmenting the I/O command with the generated identifier at the first storage unit; and

transmitting the augmented I/O command.

2. (Original)   The method of claim 1, further comprising:

receiving the transmitted augmented I/O command at a second storage unit, wherein the second storage unit is associated with a second storage unit identifier;

determining, at the second storage unit, if the generated identifier that augmented the I/O command is the same as the second storage unit identifier; and

executing the I/O command, at the second storage unit, in response to determining that the generated identifier that augmented the I/O command is the same as the second storage unit identifier.

3. (Original)   The method of claim 1, further comprising:

receiving the transmitted augmented I/O command at a second storage unit, wherein the second storage unit is associated with a second storage unit identifier;

determining, at the second storage unit, if the generated identifier that augmented the I/O command is the same as the second storage unit identifier; and

generating a failure, at the second storage unit, in response to determining that the generated identifier that augmented the I/O command is not the same as the second storage unit identifier.

4. (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the second storage unit is a second storage control unit, and wherein generating the identifier further comprises:

associating with the identifier, a World Wide Node Name of the second storage control unit;

associating with the identifier, a World Wide Port Name of a port of a fibre channel adapter coupled to the second storage control unit, wherein the port is used for communications; and

associating with the identifier, a storage subsystem identification of a storage subsystem coupled to the second storage control unit.

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[1]] 5, wherein the first storage unit is coupled to a first fibre channel adapter, wherein the destination is coupled to a second fibre channel adapter, wherein the first fibre channel adapter is coupled to the second fibre channel adapter via a switched fabric, and wherein the switched fabric includes a plurality of switches, and wherein a destination address of the second storage unit returned by a switch of the plurality of switches to the first storage unit is not unique.

6. (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the first storage unit is a primary storage control unit and the destination is a secondary storage control unit, and wherein the primary storage control unit is coupled to the secondary storage control unit.

7. (Currently amended)   A method, comprising:

receiving, at a storage unit, an I/O command, wherein the storage unit is associated with a storage unit identifier;

determining, at the storage unit, whether the I/O command is associated with an identifier that identifies a destination for which the I/O command is intended, wherein the I/O command has been augmented with the identifier by another storage unit from which the storage unit received the I/O command; and

determining, at the storage unit, whether the identifier is the same as the storage unit identifier, in response to determining that the identifier associated with the I/O command identifies the destination for which the I/O command is intended.

8. (Original)   The method of claim 7, further comprising:

executing the I/O command, at the storage unit, in response to determining that the identifier is the same as the storage unit identifier.

9. (Original)   The method of claim 7, further comprising:

generating a failure, at the storage unit, in response to determining that the identifier is not the same as the as the storage unit identifier.

10. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the storage unit is a secondary storage control unit, and wherein the identifier further comprises:

a World Wide Node Name of the secondary storage control unit;

a World Wide Port Name of a port of a fibre channel adapter coupled to the secondary storage control unit, wherein the port is used for communications; and

a storage subsystem identification of a storage subsystem coupled to the secondary storage control unit.

11. (Original) A system, comprising:

a first storage unit;

a host coupled to the first storage unit;

means for receiving, at the first storage unit, an I/O command from the host;

means for generating an identifier that identifies a destination to which the I/O command is to be transmitted from the first storage unit;

means for augmenting the I/O command with the generated identifier at the first storage unit; and

means for transmitting the augmented I/O command.

12. (Original) The system of claim 11, further comprising:

a second storage unit coupled to the first storage unit;

a second storage unit identifier associated with the second storage unit;

means for receiving the transmitted augmented I/O command at the second storage unit;

determining, at the second storage unit, if the generated identifier that augmented the I/O command is the same as the second storage unit identifier; and

executing the I/O command, at the second storage unit, in response to determining that the generated identifier that augmented the I/O command is the same as the second storage unit identifier.

13. (Original) The system of claim 11, further comprising:

a second storage unit coupled to the first storage unit;

a second storage unit identifier associated with the second storage unit;

means for receiving the transmitted augmented I/O command at the second storage unit;

means for determining, at the second storage unit, if the generated identifier that augmented the I/O command is the same as the second storage unit identifier; and

means for generating a failure, at the second storage unit, in response to determining that the generated identifier that augmented the I/O command is not the same as the second storage unit identifier.

14. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein the second storage unit is a second storage control unit, and wherein the means for generating the identifier further performs:

associating with the identifier, a World Wide Node Name of the second storage control unit;

associating with the identifier, a World Wide Port Name of a port of a fibre channel adapter coupled to the second storage control unit, wherein the port is used for communications; and

associating with the identifier, a storage subsystem identification of a storage subsystem coupled to the second storage control unit.

15. (Currently amended)   The system of claim [[11]] 14, wherein the first storage unit is coupled to a first fibre channel adapter, wherein the destination is coupled to a second fibre channel adapter, wherein the first fibre channel adapter is coupled to the second fibre channel adapter via a switched fabric, and wherein the switched fabric includes a plurality of switches, and wherein a destination address of the second storage unit returned by a switch of the plurality of switches to the first storage unit is not unique.

16. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein the first storage unit is a primary storage control unit and the destination is a secondary storage control unit, and wherein the primary storage control unit is coupled to the secondary storage control unit.

17. (Currently amended)   A system, comprising:

a storage unit;

a storage unit identifier associated with the storage unit;

means for receiving, at the storage unit, an I/O command;

means for determining, at the storage unit, whether the I/O command is associated with an identifier that identifies a destination for which the I/O command is intended, wherein the I/O command has been augmented with the identifier by another storage unit from which the storage unit received the I/O command; and

means for determining, at the storage unit, whether the identifier is the same as the storage unit identifier, in response to determining that the identifier associated with the I/O command identifies the destination for which the I/O command is intended.

18. (Original) The system of claim 17, further comprising:

means for executing the I/O command, at the storage unit, in response to determining that the identifier is the same as the storage unit identifier.

19. (Original) The system of claim 17, further comprising:

means for generating a failure, at the storage unit, in response to determining that the identifier is not the same as the as the storage unit identifier.

20. (Original) The system of claim 17, wherein the storage unit is a secondary storage control unit, and wherein the identifier further comprises:

a World Wide Node Name of the secondary storage control unit;

a World Wide Port Name of a port of a fibre channel adapter coupled to the secondary storage control unit, wherein the port is used for communications; and

a storage subsystem identification of a storage subsystem coupled to the secondary storage control unit.

21. (Currently amended) ~~An article of manufacture, wherein the article of manufacture~~ A computer readable storage medium including code wherein the code when executed by a computer is capable of causing operations, the operations comprising:

receiving, at a first storage unit, an I/O command from a host;

generating an identifier that identifies a destination to which the I/O command is to be transmitted from the first storage unit;

augmenting the I/O command with the generated identifier at the first storage unit; and

transmitting the augmented I/O command.

22. (Currently amended) The ~~article of manufacture~~ computer readable storage medium of claim 21, the operations further comprising:

receiving the transmitted augmented I/O command at a second storage unit, wherein the second storage unit is associated with a second storage unit identifier;

determining, at the second storage unit, if the generated identifier that augmented the I/O command is the same as the second storage unit identifier; and

executing the I/O command, at the second storage unit, in response to determining that the generated identifier that augmented the I/O command is the same as the second storage unit identifier.

23. (Currently amended) The ~~article of manufacture~~ computer readable storage medium of claim 21, the operations further comprising:

receiving the transmitted augmented I/O command at a second storage unit, wherein the second storage unit is associated with a second storage unit identifier;

determining, at the second storage unit, if the generated identifier that augmented the I/O command is the same as the second storage unit identifier; and

generating a failure, at the second storage unit, in response to determining that the generated identifier that augmented the I/O command is not the same as the second storage unit identifier.

24. (Currently amended)   The ~~article of manufacture~~ computer readable storage medium of claim 21, wherein the second storage unit is a second storage control unit, and wherein generating the identifier further comprises:

associating with the identifier, a World Wide Node Name of the second storage control unit;

associating with the identifier, a World Wide Port Name of a port of a fibre channel adapter coupled to the second storage control unit, wherein the port is used for communications; and

associating with the identifier, a storage subsystem identification of a storage subsystem coupled to the second storage control unit.

25. (Currently amended)   The ~~article of manufacture~~ computer readable storage medium of claim [[21]] 24, wherein the first storage unit is coupled to a first fibre channel adapter, wherein the destination is coupled to a second fibre channel adapter, wherein the first fibre channel adapter is coupled to the second fibre channel adapter via a switched fabric, and wherein the switched fabric includes a plurality of switches, and wherein a destination address of the second storage unit returned by a switch of the plurality of switches to the first storage unit is not unique.

26. (Currently amended)   The ~~article of manufacture~~ computer readable storage medium of claim 21, wherein the first storage unit is a primary storage control unit and the destination is a secondary storage control unit, and wherein the primary storage control unit is coupled to the secondary storage control unit, and wherein a destination address of the second storage unit returned by a switch to the first storage unit is not unique.

27. (Currently amended)   ~~An article of manufacture, wherein the article of manufacture~~ A computer readable storage medium including code wherein the code when executed by a computer is capable of causing operations, the operations comprising:

receiving, at a storage unit, an I/O command, wherein the storage unit is associated with a storage unit identifier;

determining, at the storage unit, whether the I/O command is associated with an identifier that identifies a destination for which the I/O command is intended, wherein the I/O command has been augmented with the identifier by another storage unit from which the storage unit received the I/O command; and

determining, at the storage unit, whether the identifier is the same as the storage unit identifier, in response to determining that the identifier associated with the I/O command identifies the destination for which the I/O command is intended.

28. (Currently amended) The ~~article of manufacture~~ computer readable storage medium of claim 27, the operations further comprising:

executing the I/O command, at the storage unit, in response to determining that the identifier is the same as the storage unit identifier.

29. (Currently amended) The ~~article of manufacture~~ computer readable storage medium of claim 27, the operations further comprising:

generating a failure, at the storage unit, in response to determining that the identifier is not the same as the as the storage unit identifier.

30. (Currently amended) The ~~article of manufacture~~ computer readable storage medium of claim 27, wherein the storage unit is a secondary storage control unit, and wherein the identifier further comprises:

a World Wide Node Name of the secondary storage control unit;

a World Wide Port Name of a port of a fibre channel adapter coupled to the secondary storage control unit, wherein the port is used for communications; and

a storage subsystem identification of a storage subsystem coupled to the secondary storage control unit.

31. (New) The method of claim 10, wherein the another storage unit is a first storage unit, wherein the secondary storage control unit is a second storage unit, wherein the first storage unit is coupled to a first fibre channel adapter, wherein the destination is coupled to a second fibre channel adapter, wherein the first fibre channel adapter is coupled to the second fibre channel

adapter via a switched fabric, and wherein the switched fabric includes a plurality of switches, and wherein a destination address of the second storage unit returned by a switch of the plurality of switches to the first storage unit is not unique.

32. (New) The system of claim 20, wherein the another storage unit is a first storage unit, wherein the secondary storage control unit is a second storage unit, wherein the first storage unit is coupled to a first fibre channel adapter, wherein the destination is coupled to a second fibre channel adapter, wherein the first fibre channel adapter is coupled to the second fibre channel adapter via a switched fabric, and wherein the switched fabric includes a plurality of switches, and wherein a destination address of the second storage unit returned by a switch of the plurality of switches to the first storage unit is not unique.

33 (New) The computer readable storage medium of claim 30, wherein the another storage unit is a first storage unit, wherein the secondary storage control unit is a second storage unit, wherein the first storage unit is coupled to a first fibre channel adapter, wherein the destination is coupled to a second fibre channel adapter, wherein the first fibre channel adapter is coupled to the second fibre channel adapter via a switched fabric, and wherein the switched fabric includes a plurality of switches, and wherein a destination address of the second storage unit returned by a switch of the plurality of switches to the first storage unit is not unique.